

SCP, Carlstadt - Findings

On May 19, 1979 an inspection of the Scientific Chemical Processing facility was conducted. This facility is located on Paterson-Plank Road, Carlstadt, New Jersey. Mr. Mac Barnes accompanied me during the inspection. Mr. Herb Case met us after the inspection tour to answer any questions. The following observations were made. See the sketch for corresponding physical locations.

1. This is the tank farm area. The tank farm is one-two feet below surface elevation. The containment area is not lined. Liquids are free to seep into the ground in this area. Eighteen tanks are located here. Mr. Barnes said all contained waste materials of various types, except for three which are empty. He said all materials stored in the remaining fifteen tanks are old waste materials without manifest, except of tanks 112 and 119 which are new waste for which there are manifest. I observed a brownish-red liquid within the tank farm area along one side of the contained area. Photograph #1 shows this liquid.
2. This area is where a distillation unit and boiler house are located. Trailers parked in this area are used as feeds and receivers for materials run through the still. The still has a small dike around the apparatus. The trailers have no secondary containment. Much of the stone covering the ground in this area, as well as the area inside the diked area is pink in color, possibly indicating a past spill. A liquid can be seen seeping from the creek bank directly behind the boiler house. Photograph #2 shows this seepage.
3. This is a staging platform holding empty and full drums containing waste materials. The platform contained about 100 empty drums, and about 160 full drums. Manifest #58358 was observed on about 60 drums. Although the platform slants inward to prevent run-off the sides of this platform are completely stained with materials that have run down the walls of this platform. Two trailers at the rear of the platform contain old leakers pulled from the yard. One trailer has drums with manifest #89107 marked on them. The three trailers at the front of the platform contain sludges generated from the distillation processes on site.
4. The thin film evaporator and adjacent tank farm are all diked. Various colored liquids could be seen in the thin film diked area. No leakage was seen in the tank farm area. Photographs #3 and #4 show the general area. The thin film area is messy and poorly maintained. Housekeeping is poor. Drums, tools and pieces of scrape are scattered about the general area.
5. This is a drum storage area directly in front of the thin film unit. There are approximately 1500-2000 drums stored on the ground in this area. Mr. Barnes said this material was on-site prior to May 1, 1978 and had no manifest. He said these drums had been recently moved to this area to segregate materials. Red and black liquids were observed in several areas of this storage area. Photograph #5 shows one of these spill areas. These drums are stored directly on the ground, with no containment present. The drums are stacked poorly, creating the possibility of drums falling and spilling their contents onto the ground. Many of the drums are rusted and in poor condition. A sludge box is located in this area to empty drums.

6. This is the second major drum storage area, located adjacent to the tank farm. Approximately 1300 drums are stored here. Like the first storage area, all drums are stored directly on the ground without proper containment. Many of these drums are rusted and in poor condition, leaking their contents onto the ground in the area. Various colored liquids including black and yellow, can be seen in numerous areas of this drum storage area. These drums are also old drums without manifest according to Mr. Barnes.

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